

H. R. 771.

(Rep. No. 157.)

FEBRUARY 9, 1843.

Read twice, and committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

FEBRUARY 10, 1843.

Referred to Committee on Foreign Affairs.

FEBRUARY 16, 1843.

Reported from Committee on Foreign Affairs without amendment, and with recommendation that the bill do not pass.

Mr. REYNOLDS, from the Select Committee to which the subject had been referred, reported the following bill :

A BILL

To authorize the adoption of measures for the occupation and settlement of the Territory of Oregon, for extending certain portions of the laws of the United States over the same, and for other purposes.

1 Whereas the title of the United States to the Territory
2 of Oregon is certain, and will not be abandoned ; therefore,
3 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*
4 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That*
5 the President of the United States is hereby authorized and
6 required to take possession of the Territory of the United
7 States bordering on the Pacific ocean, and cause to be erect-
8 ed, at suitable places and distances, a line of military posts
9 from some point on the Missouri or Arkansas rivers into the
10 best pass for entering the valley of the Oregon, and, also,
11 at or near the mouth of the Columbia river.

12 That six hundred and forty acres or one section of land
13 shall be granted to every white male inhabitant of the Terri-

4 tory of Oregon, of the age of eighteen years and upward,
15 who shall cultivate and use the same for five consecutive
16 years, or to his heirs or heirs-at-law, if such there be, in case
17 of his decease. And to every such inhabitant or cultivator,
18 being a married man, there shall be granted, in addition, one
19 hundred and sixty acres to the wife of said husband, and the
20 like quantity of one hundred and sixty acres to the father,
21 for each child under the age of eighteen years he may have,
22 or which may be born within the five years aforesaid.

23 That the President is hereby authorized and required to
24 appoint two additional Indian agents, with a salary of fifteen
25 hundred dollars each, whose duty it shall be (under his di-
26 rection and control) to superintend the interests of the United
27 States with any or every Indian tribe west of any agency now
28 established by law.

29 That the sum of one hundred thousand dollars be appro-
30 priated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise ap-
31 propriated, to carry into effect the provisions of this act.

1 SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That the civil and
2 criminal jurisdiction of the supreme court and district courts
3 of the Territory of Iowa be, and the same is hereby, extend-
4 ed over that part of the Indian territories lying west of the
5 present limits of the said Territory of Iowa, and south of
6 the forty-ninth degree of north latitude, and west of the
7 Rocky mountains, and north of the boundary line between
8 the United States and the Republic of Texas, not included
9 within the limits of any State; and, also, over the Indian

10 territories comprising the Rocky mountains and the country
11 between them and the Pacific ocean south of fifty-four de-
12 grees and forty minutes of north latitude, and north of the
13 forty-second degree of north latitude; and justices of the
14 peace may be appointed for the said territory, in the same
15 manner and with the same powers as now provided by law
16 in relation to the Territory of Iowa: *Provided*, That any
17 subject of the Government of Great Britain, who shall have
18 been arrested under the provisions of this act, for any crime
19 alleged to have been committed within the territory westward
20 of the Stony or Rocky mountains, while the same remains
21 free and open to the vessels, citizens, and subjects, of the
22 United States and of Great Britain, pursuant to stipulations
23 between the two Powers, shall be delivered up, on proof of
24 his being such British subject, to the nearest or most con-
25 venient authorities having cognizance of such offence by the
26 laws of Great Britain, for the purpose of being prosecuted
27 and tried according to such laws.

1 SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That two associate
2 judges of the supreme court of the Territory of Iowa, in
3 addition to the number now authorized by law, may, in the
4 discretion of the President, be appointed, to hold their offices
5 by the same tenure and for the same time, receive the same
6 compensation, and possess all the powers and authority con-
7 ferred by law upon the associate judges of the said territory;
8 and two judicial districts shall be organized by the said su-
9 preme court, in addition to the existing number, in reference

10 to the jurisdiction conferred by this act; and district courts
11 shall be held in the said districts, by one of the judges of the
12 supreme court, at such times and places as the said court
13 shall direct; and the said district courts shall possess all the
14 powers and authority vested in the present district courts of
15 the said Territory, and may, in like manner, appoint their
16 own clerks.

1 SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That any justice of
2 the peace, appointed in and for the territories described in
3 the second section of this act, shall have power to cause all
4 offenders against the laws of the United States to be arrested,
5 by such persons as they shall appoint for that purpose, and
6 to commit such offenders to safe custody for trial, in the same
7 cases and in the manner provided by law in relation to the
8 Territory of Iowa; and to cause the offenders so committed
9 to be conveyed to the place appointed for the holding of a
10 district court for the said Territory of Iowa, nearest and most
11 convenient to the place of such commitment, there to be de-
12 tained for trial, by such persons as shall be authorized for
13 that purpose by any judge of the supreme court, or any jus-
14 tice of the peace of the said Territory; or, where such offend-
15 ers are British subjects, to cause them to be delivered to the
16 nearest or most convenient British authorities, as hereinbe-
17 fore provided; and the expenses of such commitment, re-
18 moval, and detention, shall be paid in the same manner as
19 provided by law in respect to the fees of the marshal of the
20 said Territory.